

CHURCH OF GOD *Evangel*



December 1, 1958

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.



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Special Notice

The inaugural broadcast of "Forward in Faith" can be heard December 7, 1958, on the following stations and at the following times:

Birmingham, Alabama

WSGN 610 kc (5,000 watts) 1:30 p.m.

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San Francisco, California

KGO 810 kc (50,000 watts) 4:00 p.m.

— — —

Baxley, Georgia

WHAB 1260 kc (5,000 watts) 12:30 p.m.

— — —

Detroit, Michigan

CKLW 800 kc (50,000 watts) 3:30 p.m.

— — —

Chattanooga, Tennessee

WAPO 1150 kc (5,000 watts) 1:00 p.m.

— — —

Charleston, West Virginia

WCHS 580 kc (5,000 watts) 8:30 a.m.

We trust that all of the *Evangel* readers will be listening to this inaugural broadcast and will urge all their friends to do so each Sunday. Watch for further announcements concerning the "Forward in Faith" broadcast on other stations. You are invited to write your reactions to the program to "Forward in Faith," P.O. Box A, Cleveland, Tennessee.

—H. D. Williams, program director

CHURCH OF GOD *Evangel*

Official Voice of the Church of God

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible. 2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor. 4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins. 5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. 6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost. 7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people. 8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart. 9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. 10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. 11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement. 12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet. 13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years. 14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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The Blessed Hope

By **L. Luther Turner**

Detroit, Michigan

PART I

*Sermon preached at the World Pentecostal Fellowship,
Toronto, Canada.*

My topic for this afternoon is "The Blessed Hope." The Scripture is, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13).

The blessed hope is not CONVERSION, although Jesus does come into our hearts at conversion. Paul had Jesus in his heart after conversion, but he still looked for His return. John had Jesus in his heart after conversion; yet he pleads, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Conversion does not fulfill the prophecies describing the Lord's return. The Bible says that Jesus will come personally with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, with the trump of God.

The blessed hope is not PENTECOST. Dr. Leslie D. Weatherhead, of the City Temple in London, said the Scriptures telling of Christ's return "were amply fulfilled by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and in the subsequent amazing spread of the new cause." Jesus talked to the disciples about the Father sending them a Comforter, the Holy Spirit, and told them, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." But He was speaking of ANOTHER Comforter. Also, after Pentecost, there are 150 future references to the Lord's coming.

The blessed hope is not PROGRESS IN HUMANITARIAN ENTERPRISES. Dr. Leslie D. Weatherhead said, "Actually we are celebrating the second advent every time a heart is opened to Jesus' coming; every time a good deed is done in His name; every time a man or woman turns from ugliness to beauty; every-time anyone says a loving word, forgives another, bites his tongue on unkind criticism, or lifts the fallen for Jesus' sake." Some people point to hospitals, orphanages, homes for the aged, or institutions of correction and say, "That is what Christ meant when He said He was coming back." These outgrowths of Christianity are not the return of Christ.

The blessed hope is not DEATH. The dying saint can truthfully say, "The Lord has come for me." David said, in the moment of death, "Thou art with me." Paul said that being absent from the body was being "present with the Lord." When my boyhood Sunday School teacher died, she saw Jesus. After weeks of intense suffering and restlessness, she dropped off to sleep one afternoon and slept peacefully for two hours. When she awoke, she said, "Jesus just put His hand under my head and told me to rest for the journey ahead." After telling everyone goodbye, she and Jesus went home together. Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., stated, "During all my boyhood, I thought death was the coming of the Lord." But the Bible plainly calls death an ENEMY, and the coming of the Lord is the coming of a Friend.

THE BLESSED HOPE IS the literal, visible, bodily return of Jesus Christ to catch up all true believers to meet Him in the air.

Ever since He left, men have looked for Him to return. In the early church, many followers of Jesus misunderstood such expressions as "There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom" (Matthew 16:28), and "Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come" (Matthew 10:23). They believed He would return in their generation. The

early disciples preached the rapture so strongly that when the early Christians came to a hill, they would shade their eyes with their hands and scan the skies to see if they could see Christ returning on a cloud. A watchword of the early Christians, indicating their hope of a speedy return of the Lord Jesus, was **MARANATHA**, meaning, "Our Lord, come!" The Thessalonian church was so excited over Paul's first letter to them on the rapture that men left their work and ceased to provide for their families. Why carry on the dull routine of existence if Christ were coming soon? Jesus told Peter concerning John, "If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee." Many took that to mean that John was going to live till the return of Christ. Paul said, "We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed," and "We which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord." Many believe that Paul himself entertained the idea that he and others of his generation would live to witness the return of the Lord.

Down through the centuries men have felt the Lord would return in their generation. Martin Luther, the great Christian reformer, while translating the New Testament became disturbed and said, "The world is running so hastily toward its end that serious thoughts often occur as to whether the last day may not break before the translation of the Holy Scriptures. . . can be completed." By 1534 he had translated both Testaments. Date setters have said He would come in 1666, 1843, and 1914. Dr. M. F. Ham, the man who led Billy Graham to Christ, said, "The gentile age will close. . . when the British Mandate ends over Palestine." This happened May 15, 1948. Dr. Albert Einstein said, "If the Christ of the Christians doesn't come before 1957, He might as well not come."

While many predictionists have attempted to establish a date for Christ's return, God's Word says, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power," and "But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father." Jesus does not know exactly when He will return. The angels do not know, the church does not know, preachers do not know, the world does not know, scientists do not know, but the Father knows! Because He knows, that means the hour is fixed!

But we know His coming is soon! Speaker C. M. Ward, of the Assemblies of God's world-wide radio program "Revivaltime," said, "We are living in tremendous days! The launching of new moons, atomic warfare, guided missiles, struggle for peace—all speak to me of one thing, the soon coming of Christ." Oral Roberts said, "Now is the time for Jesus to come! . . . He should come today. If He does not come today, then surely He will come tonight. But if He doesn't come tonight, certainly He will come in the morning. Jesus is coming soon! His coming. . . fills the whole horizon of my life!"

World conditions speak of His soon return. We are living in a **SPACE AGE** when man is trying to invade God's heaven. Jet airplanes have broken the sound barrier; intercontinental ballistic missiles are streaking across the sky; satellites are whirling around the world 18,000 miles an hour; nations are launching rockets intended for the moon; ideas of space platforms are

beginning to materialize to be used as a springboard to conquer space. We are living in an **ATOMIC AGE** when the threat of war has the whole world quivering; when atomic stockpiles are getting bigger in both camps; when atomic and hydrogen bomb testing is affecting the very atmosphere; when the troubled Middle East and the Far East and the surging tide of nationalism everywhere could explode into another world war anytime; when nations possess weapons capable of destroying the human family; when demons

Let's Not Forget the Upper Room While Preparing the Lower



of war with feet of fire are walking on the ragged and threadbare nerves of the leaders of this earth. We are living in a **MATERIALISTIC AGE** when men feel they can run things without God. Godless Communism has taken over 1/3 of the world in one generation. Starting with 17 supporters in 1903, taking over Russia with 40,000 supporters in 1917, they counted 900 million in their camp last year. The dust of materialism is blinding the eyes of the whole human family. We are living in an **APOSTATE AGE** when false religions of the world are counting their followers in the hundreds of millions and when cults and Catholicism are taking a heavy toll in the Christian world. Last year the Catholic Church boasted of having

496,512,000 members, or 18.48 percent of the world. All these things shout to us, HIS COMING IS SOON!

SOME MAY ASK, "What is the purpose of the rapture?" There are many reasons for it.

First, it will make the dead live. Death, that power-mad monster that has staggered down through the centuries pulling kings off thrones and babies from mothers' breasts, will suffer great defeat. John said, "All that are in the graves shall hear his voice." Paul proclaimed, "The dead in Christ shall rise." Job announced, "After my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." The devil could beat up a Christian so badly that his own children couldn't recognize him, use acid to eat off his finger prints and mutilate him beyond identification, carry his broken, bloody body to the wildest jungle of Africa and leave him there till the ants carry him bit by bit all over the continent, but when the trumpet sounds, he shall come forth!

Second, it will change our vile bodies. Paul said, "Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His own glorious body." John said, "When he shall appear, we shall be like him." David said, "I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness." 1 Corinthians 15:49 says, "As we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."

These vile bodies are subject to disease—wasting tuberculosis, eating cancer, paralyzing polio, numbing strokes, weakening heart attacks, disabling arthritis, confining diabetes, crippling accidents. But every case of divine healing, large or small, is a pledge and pre-assurance that the day will come when sickness and disease are no more.

These vile bodies are subject to deformity. I have seen bodies so twisted and deformed you could hardly tell whether they were human beings.

These vile bodies are subject to disturbance. Our age is characterized by upset, ulcerous and cancerous stomachs, troubled and tormented consciences, fevered and nightmarish dreams, formidable and distracting frustrations.

These vile bodies are subject to declining years. We will get old and our hair will turn to silver, our eyes will fade, color will drain from our wrinkling cheeks, our brows will furrow, our backs will bend, our hands will lose their strength, our steps will become feeble and uncertain, and our motions will get slower. Life will no longer be a challenge and we will begin to think of eternity.

These vile bodies are subject to death. Our mothers go through the valley of the shadow of death to give us life. We are born to die, and start dying the day we are born. Our IQ reaches its peak at about 15 or 16. Our sight starts failing at about 19, and our hearing at about 21. Moles start decorating our flesh in the early twenties. Methuselah was the oldest man ever to live and he had the symbol for death sandwiched in the middle of his name. Yes, this vile body must die! When your circulation starts getting poor, and your heart starts to race, putting up that last but losing battle; when your eyes get set and have that

far-off, glassy look; when your sponge-like lungs start filling with mucous and your breathing gets heavy, gurgles, and only comes to the end of your throat in short, staccado breaths that shake the whole bed; when your limbs get stiff and turn a sullen blue and your skin begins to pucker and wrinkle and break out in a cold, clammy sweat; when your tongue gets thick and your speech fails; when the air about you is filled with an excited expectancy; when the tender lips of a loving wife that fires the deepest passion of your being plants her most affectionate kiss on your cold, sweaty brow, but without response; when the chubby, dimpled, small hand of your darling little curly-headed baby, tearfully pats her daddy on his cheek, but daddy doesn't answer—Yes, this vile body is dying!

PAUL ADEQUATELY described the resurrection of these bodies when he wrote, "Some men will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?" "It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised in a spiritual body."

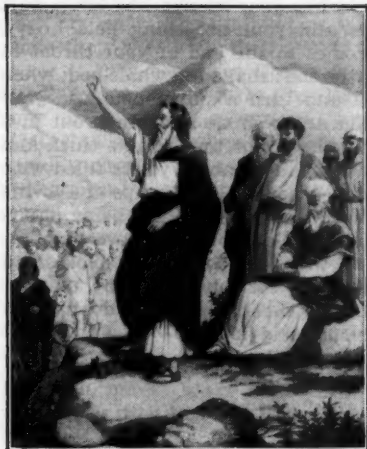
Third, it will reveal Christ to us. Jesus prayed, "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am: that they may behold my glory" (John 17:24). Paul wrote, "Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face" (1 Corinthians 13:12). John said, "We shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2). Ah! I would like to see Him as a Babe in Bethlehem's manger. I would like to have seen Him at 12 when He confounded the doctors of law in the temple. I would like to have seen Him baptized by John in the Jordan River. I would like to have seen Him at the marriage supper when He turned the water to wine. I would like to have seen Him at the tomb of Lazarus when He cried, "Lazarus, come forth." I would like to have seen Him walking the water that stormy night. I would like to have seen Him on the Mount of Transfiguration when His clothes were whiter than the light and His countenance was brighter than the noonday sun. I would like to have seen Him on the cross when He died for our sins. I would like to have seen Him that first Easter morn when He pulled off His grave clothes and walked from the tomb. I would like to have seen Him at Bethany when, while He blessed them, He was parted from them and carried into heaven. But I missed all this!

If I knew Jesus were in the bush of Australia, I would go there to see Him. If I knew He were in the jungle of Africa, in the desert sands of the Sahara, or in the frozen wastes of the North Pole, I would go there to see Him. As a boy I sang a song like this,

"Oh, I want to see Him, look upon His face,
There to sing forever, of His saving grace,
On the streets of glory, let me lift my voice.
Cares all past, home at last, ever to rejoice."

Oh, to see Him before whom angels veil their faces and cry HOLY, HOLY, HOLY; to see Him Who replaces the sun and moon in the holy city with the light of His countenance!

(To be continued)



God's Object Lesson to Israel

By Mrs. Ruth Starnes

Greenwood, South Carolina

"Hear the word of the Lord, ye children of Israel: for the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land" Hosea 4:1.

HOSEA WAS ONE of the minor prophets, who was the first of all the writing prophets, being raised up some time before Isaiah. The ancients say he was of Bethshemesh, of the tribe of Issachar. He prophesied the destruction of the kingdom of Israel when it was at a great distance, then lived to see and lament that destruction. The prophecies of Hosea were addressed immediately to the ten tribes, yet he did not overlook Judah, for he considered the two kingdoms together as constituting the covenant of God. Hosea prophesied during the reign of Jereboam II and the Jews reckoned that he prophesied over fourscore years. The scope of his prophecy is to discover sin and announce the judgments of God against a people who would not reform. Hosea's name signifies a saviour. The prophets and ministers of God are instruments of salvation, for they have helped many souls from death. His rough diction indicates that his residence was in the North.

To Israel this was a calamitous period, embracing usurpations and murders of reigning sovereigns. This is one of the darkest periods in the history of Israel. The obligations of the law were relaxed and the claims of religion were disregarded. Baal was a rival to Jehovah. In the dark recesses of the groves, the people practiced the cruel rites of idolatry. The land was distracted by domestic brawls and foreign invasions. Might was marshalled against right. Princes and priests alike were accused of bribery and impiety. Murder and bloodshed were steps to the throne, the knowledge of God being wilfully rejected. The people hated rebuke; the more they were called, the more they refused. They forbade their prophets to prophesy and their false prophets hated God. So we see the moral condition of the kingdom was exceedingly corrupt. The prophet Hosea rebuked and denounced this degradation unsparingly.

God's charges against His people were that both the priests and the people rejected knowledge. The ruling

class, instead of trying to stem the tide of corruption, applauded and encouraged it. They forgot God's laws and did not try to teach them to their posterity. It was to their honor that they were increased with number, wealth, and power. The more populous the nation grew, the more sin they committed. Hosea declares that God will send them into exile because of their sins. He describes the effect of the exile upon the social and religious habits of the people. Even after God deserted them, they could not enjoy the feasts of Baalim in the hearty way the heathen did. God declared that the land, which they would leave behind and hope to return to, would become a desolation. Even if they did get to return, the land would be overgrown with nettles, and would be neither fruitful nor habitable.

The book of Hosea contains strains of poetry and splendor. No doubt Hosea was a prominent man and the tragedy of his home life generally known. His devotion to his wayward wife was a very apt illustration of Jehovah's yearning over apostate Israel. Hosea's marital life was the outward symbolizing of the truth of God's love for His people. The Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take thee a wife of whoredoms and the children of whoredoms, for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the Lord." Not only was the wife under the curse for having done shamefully, but her children were also under the curse. The children were called "children of whoredoms" because they inherited either their mother's evil tendencies, or the evils of being the offspring of an adulterous union. The whole land was polluted with sin.

Children in the East were usually given a name in accordance with some particular circumstance existing at that time. So when Hosea's first-born son was presented to him, God said, "Call him Jezreel; for yet a little while and I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu, and will

(Continued on page 8)

THE GOOD WAY

Jeremiah 6:16

By Hubert Black

Instructor, Lee College

MANY FIND THE PREACHING of holiness offensive and reject sermons on the subject. But these words, recorded in Jeremiah 6:16, are not the words of man. The Lord Himself is speaking. It is our duty and it is to our best interest to hear and obey.

The Lord recommends a way. This is not the way of the wicked, because their way is neither good nor peaceful. This recommended way is the way of Scriptural holiness. It is faith in Christ or the receiving of Him as our Saviour. It is the receiving of Christ as our sanctifier. It is our walking in Him as we have received Him. Love and obedience will be the fruits of this sanctifying faith.

This course of faith and holiness is called a *way*. It is a way that leads to the enjoyment of eternal life (Matthew 7:14). This course is the *only* way to eternal life (Hebrews 12:14; Matthew 7:4).

This course is called the *old* way. It is as old as the Church of God and the pioneers who established it. It is as old as Brother Lee, Brother Spurlin, Brother Buckalew, and others who preached with the love that comes with purity and with the fire of the Pente-

costal experience. It is as old as the Wesley brothers who preached and practiced Scriptural holiness. It is as old as Christianity, because the Lord Himself preached holiness (John 15:12, 19; 17:17). The Apostle Paul preached and taught holiness (Romans 6:8; Hebrews 12:19). Peter, the Pentecost preacher, advocated holiness (2 Peter 2:1-5; 1 Peter 4:1-5). John the Beloved taught much about love; but to him, love was the fruit of the pure heart (1 John 1:7; 2:15; 3:8-9). This way it is as old as the Mosaic dispensation, because Moses gave commandment to love God with all the heart, which is all that God ever requires (Deuteronomy 6:45; Hebrews 11:24). This way is as old as Noah, since he was *perfect* in his generation (Genesis 6:9). It is as old as Enoch who "walked with God." It is as old as Abel who offered the sacrifice of a clean life (Hebrews 11:4). It is as old as Adam, because he was created holy and in the moral image of God.

It is called a *good* way. It is good because God, the Origin of this way, is good. The people who walk in this way are good (Galatians 5:22). They do good to others. They are "the light of the world" and "the salt of the earth" (Matthew 5). This way is good because it is a way of personal cleanliness and purity. This way is good because it leads to a good end, eternity with Christ.

God has commanded us concerning the way, "Stand ye in the *ways* and see." There is *one* good way but many *evil* ways. There are the ways of open sin, secret sin, irreligion, self-righteousness, formality, apostasy and hypocrisy.

We are commanded to stand, to pause and to consider. Then, we are to see or examine the way we are walking. The end of every evil tendency is death (Romans 6:21).

We are to ask for the old paths. We can search the Scriptures, which is the map of the Christian. We can ask direction of God (James 1:5). We can learn by associating with the holy.

We are to walk in this good way. We must *get* into the way, not stopping short of complete sanctification. We are to *stay* in the way by resisting temptation. We are to *go forward* in the way by seeking more light and then walking in it.

We have precious promises which encourage us to seek the straight and narrow way, "and ye shall find rest for your souls." We can find rest in this life from the anguish of guilt, from tormenting fears, and from defilement. We can find rest in the service of the Master (Matthew 11:30). We shall have glorious rest in the future life (Hebrews 4:9). We shall have rest from temptation, suffering and danger (Matthew 6:20; Revelation 21:4).

Some object to the preaching of holiness, saying it is a new and unorthodox way. It is actually the good way and the old way. The way of "sinning Christianity" is the new way, conceived by Satan and propagated by lustful and dangerous ecclesiastics. This good way is favorable to all mankind; it is a way of peace, rest and joy (Luke 1:78, 79; Psalm 35:1; Revelation 14:12).

GOD'S OBJECT LESSON TO ISRAEL

(Continued from page 6)

cause to cease the kingdom of the House of Israel." Jezreel announces judgment, for it means, "God will scatter." The children of Israel were scattered and ceased to be a nation.

The second child was a daughter, and God said, "Name her Lo-ruhamah," meaning "not pitied." This shows God's withdrawal of mercy. They had so abused the favors of God and forfeited their rights to His favors that God withdrew His affection from them. There is no strength greater than God. When He comes forth against a people, their strongholds are easily broken down. Sin turns away the mercies of God, whether it be found in an individual or nation.

The third child born in the home was another son. God told Hosea to name him Lo-ammi, meaning "not my people." Israel was told that God's mercy would be withdrawn; yet they had not regarded it. Thus God declares He will have no relations with them. If they were going to worship idols, they could expect no help from God when their calamity came. Giving glory to any creature which is due to God alone is a great injury, especially when one professing to be His child is the guilty party. God has great patience, but if people persist in their transgressions, there is nothing left for God to do except to withdraw from them.

God's ways are high above man's ways. Even though Gomer had played the harlot, Hosea was told to go love her and allure her back to himself. She must be for Hosea alone, not another man. She was to lead a quiet life in seclusion; her licentiousness must cease. This was to last many days, as long as was necessary to assure Hosea of Gomer's moral amendment. He did not deal with her in strict justice according to her wrongs, but according to his tender mercies, he was willing to restore her to her first estate. Israel had been a luxuriant vine, which put forth its fruit, but its prosperity only served to increase idolatry. The solemn story God is trying to tell Israel is that they will abide in captivity many days, where they will be tempted to accept the ungodly practices of the heathen, but He will restore them if they repent. In process of time, if Israel will repent, forsake her whoredoms, forsake her idolatries, and return unto the Lord, He will accept them and give complete pardon.

So, from the thick jungle of Hosea's travail, God's Word breaks through like a high and open mound. "How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together. I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city" (Hosea 11:8, 9).

Even in the face of man's obstinacy, there are expressions of strong reluctance and deep pain on

God's part when having to give man up. The prophet declares that the troubles which are already closing around Israel are, in reality, a last opportunity for their repentance. Man has been created a free moral agent. He has power, even down to this generation, to resist God. Though there is compassionate love on God's part, man's sins break fellowship with a holy God. Man is his own destroyer. This is a very sad tragedy; yet it continues to happen even in this present dispensation.

God calls the nation of Israel to return to Him. Though God is justly angry with sinners, that anger may be turned away by repentance. God will be reconciled to those who will turn from evil and seek the mercies of God. The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him. The ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them. Let us be mindful of God in all our undertakings. Let us strive for the crown that is eternal and that fadeth not away.

There is a legend that at one time an angel was talking to an old man. Going into a vault, he brought out a crown of blazing diamonds. He said to the man, "This crown was designed for you as a youth, but you failed to surrender to God with your whole heart. You fell back into sin and now the crown is given to another."

Remember, it is he that endures to the end that will be saved. When we come to the end of this earthly pilgrimage, the toils of the road will seem as nothing compared to the riches we shall enjoy in heaven. Time on earth is short; the clock is ticking off the time. Let us hold fast to God's unchanging hand. There is victory in Christ; the devil is a defeated foe. "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son" (Rev. 21:7).

IMPORTANT!

Change in Date

The date of the *Northeastern Regional Sunday School and Youth Convention*, to be held in Salisbury, Maryland, has been changed:

From: March 26-28, 1959

To: March 19-21, 1959

—National Director



reports

Leader Honored With Plaque



WILDWOOD, Fla.—On October 5, the annual home-coming day at the Church of God in Wildwood, Florida, Brother Lawrence E. Miller received a beautiful bronze plaque presented to him by his local church in appreciation of his hav-

ing promoted the church's regular monthly gospel singing for more than ten years. The plaque was presented by the pastor, Rev. Donald K. Koon, with the Rev. Houston R. Morehead, state overseer of Florida, looking on.

Brother Miller, who is the church's Sunday School superintendent, has been a promoter of gospel singing for years. His singing and that of his family has blessed many people in various parts of the United States, including the State of Washington. He comes from a large family of singers. His three brothers are ministers in the church. They are Roy C. Miller, pastor in Baltimore, Md.; James Miller, pastor in Jena, La.; and J. Ralph Miller, pastor in Cocoa, Fla.

The Wildwood Church is indeed fortunate to have the services of such an outstanding leader and singer as Brother Miller.

—Reporter

Our People Are Willing to Work

PENNSBORO, W. Va. — The Church of God at Pennsboro had a chicken supper at the school home economics room. Although this was our first time to serve the public the supper was a great success. We served sixty suppers and cleared over \$50.00. We are glad we have people who are willing to work. We thank God for our pastor and his wife who are interested in the work of the Lord.

—Bessie Jack
L.W.W.B. president

It is said that one day Tolstoi came to view a picture of the Last Supper which an artist had painted. After looking at it for awhile, Tolstoi's face seemed to show disappointment. The artist anxiously asked the reason, and Tolstoi said, "You don't love the central Figure." "What makes you think I don't?" asked the artist. Tolstoi replied, "If you did, you would have painted Him better."

How are you and I portraying the central Figure in the picture of our lives?—Zula Evelyn Coon in *Worship Services From the Hymns* (Fleming H. Revell Company).

Those who sought to give a natural explanation for the power that was present in the meetings (of Billy Graham) were completely baffled. A psychiatrist sat through five meetings in his attempt to analyze it. Then God analyzed him. He, too, joined the thousands who had begun to live by taking Christ as their Lord and Saviour. —Robert O. Ferm in *Persuaded to Live: Conversion Stories From the Billy Graham Crusades* (Fleming H. Revell Company).



testimonies

He Is Real Today

CLAYTON, Ga.—I want to send a note of praise to the Lord for His many blessings to me. He has been so good to me and my family. He has helped me stand for 21 years.

About the middle of August, I became ill with my side hurting. I thought perhaps it was my time to go, but He saw fit to leave me here a little longer. He healed me and I praise Him for it. He is as real to me today as He was 21 years ago. Please pray that I will hold out to the end.

—Mrs. Bertie B. Ellen

"Praise God for General Assembly"

PRINCETON, W. Va.—I feel it is my duty to offer praise to God for this last General Assembly and the manner in which it was conducted.

I will agree with the writer of Proverbs 4:7 that wisdom is the principle thing. He also advises us to get understanding in the same verse. But there arises the question, "Where shall we go to obtain it?" James, the Apostle that walked daily and talked personally with our Lord, answers that for us (see James 1:5); "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him" of God.

The Lord Jesus also said in John 14:13, "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." Then prompted by His wonderful love, He said, "If we shall ask anything in my name, I will do it." Here He asks a little favor of us also. "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

I consider that He has asked a very small thing of us for the tremendous amount given us, for His commandments are not grievous. If we love Him as we are commanded, with all our heart, soul,

mind, and strength, it is a great pleasure to do those little things He requests of us. Besides being a real personal pleasure, it is honorable; not only is it honorable, but it is the fulfilling of a sacred duty. (See Ecclesiastes 12:13). "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

I do acknowledge there were some very sacred things in our discussions upon which we could not all whole-heartedly agree, but we receive great comfort and admonition from our beloved brother St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians, chapter 4, verse 3, "Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Verse 13 says, "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ!"

Growth Falls Off

LAND O'LAKES, Fla.—I want to thank the good Lord for removing a growth from my nose. I want to thank everyone that prayed for me. The growth fell off one day while I was at work. Pray that I will get closer to the Lord and be what He would have me to be.

—Mrs. Leavy Johnson

God Heals of Gall Bladder Trouble

BALTIMORE, Md.—I promised the Lord that I would send my testimony to you. I want to tell you that God is just as big today as He was when He rolled back the Red Sea for Israel to go over on dry ground. Praise His dear name! For years I had been troubled with gall bladder. In September, 1957, I had an attack. The doctor wanted to put me in the hospital but I refused. Then in January, 1958, I went to the doctor and he found stones in my gall bladder. He said

I would have to be operated on, but I prayed for God to heal me. The devil tried once again. On March 4, I had an attack at church. I was suffering so bad I could hardly breathe. At the altar I asked a woman to call the pastor over. The pastor anointed me and prayed. When he prayed the second time, the pain instantly left. I shouted and praised God. When I walked home, it started hurting again. My husband laid his hand on my stomach and prayed again and the pain left. On Tuesday, September 9, when I went to the doctor, he said that my gall bladder was clear. I feel that I have much to thank God for.

—Mrs. Dessie Balzano

He Answers Prayer

WAKE FOREST, N. C.—I praise the Lord for His great love for us. We can always go to the Lord for help. If we stay humble, He will hear and answer our prayer. I praise Him for the times He has healed in our home. Pray for me to have more faith and to be a true Christian. Pray for my husband and children to be saved.

—Pattie Short

God Never Forgets a Promise

QUEBECK, Tenn.—A few weeks ago I prayed to God in Jesus' name to be healed of an allergy on my hands and feet. I promised God if He would heal me that I would testify to it and write to the *Evangelist* about it. There are times when my hands and feet are worse than others, and sometimes they get infected because I pick at them so much with my finger nails. After being prayed for a few weeks ago, I felt that I was healed and testified to it, however, I failed to write to the *Evangelist* as I had promised God I would do. God never forgets a promise; so the affliction came back. Now I feel that I will be healed if I will just stop picking at my hands and feet. I do not have the will-power within myself to do this. Saints of God, I want you to pray for me that I can leave them alone and that I can always be what God wants me to be.

—Mrs. Lillyan R. Brock

God Touches Heart Condition

TULSA, Okla.—I wish to sound a note of praise to God for touching my body. He has been so real to me and I love Him. For the past 3 years I was under the care of a doctor

for heart trouble. At times not even the doctor thought I could live, but thank God, He came on the scene and touched my body. I have stopped taking the medicine that the doctors said I would have to take as long as I live. I had prayed so hard for faith to trust the Lord for my healing. I know the Holy Ghost abides in my soul right now.

—Mrs. H. A. Groves

Greetings to the Saints of God

WISE, Va.—I have been thinking over my Christian experience. In 1921 our church was set in order with five members. I thank God for His wonderful church that stands for the uplifting of His people. If people would go by the good Word of God and the teachings of the New Testament, there would be no fear when we come down to cross death's river. I have seen this happen: I stood by the bedside of my dying sister when death was creeping upon her. She said to me, "What is this coming upon me? What can you do?" I said, "I will pray for you."

As I began to ask God to come to her bedside, she began to pray too. He came to our call, blessed her, took the fear away, and rolled the troubled waters back. She looked into the beyond and viewed the Promised Land! When she lost sight of this world, she experienced what we all are living for; she saw the Saviour and loved ones who had gone on before. When she met them, she was shaking hands and kissing her children and loved ones. Then she laid one hand on her heart and beckoned the Lord with the other to come on and take her across. Thank the Lord He has no respect of person!

And now I want to obey the voice that has spoken to me. Crippled for two years or more, I had come to a place where I thought that I could not work any more. I had sat down, contented with what I was doing. I get a small check each month. I paid tithes on that and was giving \$2.00 per month on a pledge on our note for the parson-

age and \$1.00 a month to the Willing Workers. We have a small church and are in need of two Sunday School rooms. We don't get much help on our indebtedness as some of our members have moved away and some have become negligent. I hope the Lord will send a revival that will wake our little church up.

The reason I am writing this is that the Lord spoke to me the other night in a dark closed room and told me I could help by doing this. I must obey Him who has the rule over me. I have never heard a voice and have never been in the presence of the Lord as I was that night. It seemed to me that I was in a soundproof room. Nothing bothered me or attracted my attention. This voice said to me, "I have work for you to do." I began to wonder what I could do.

He said to me, "Your church needs two Sunday School rooms. The old notes that you are paying on need to be paid off; then start on your Sunday School rooms." I spoke back to the voice and said, "I am crippled and can't get out to work." He then said to me, "Look inside the church and see how crowded the room is."

In our Sunday School the older folks could not hear for the noise of the smaller ones and the younger ones did not have a class where they could sing and the like. The smaller ones were not interested.

This voice said, "Look on the outside, going up and down the road; the older ones on the outside who have never been saved need a light to walk by." I got out of the bed and sat wondering why this came to me. I had thought that if I put in my little help I could be at ease. Still in that closed place with no disturbing thought, I said again, "I am crippled and can't get out." This voice said to me—I was in His presence yet: "Make a quilt and place the names on it to show who helped you. You won't have to get out of your yard."

While I was thinking on this, the same voice said to me, "Make up your mind for I won't ask you again." I said, "I will try and do my best."

I hope we can accomplish this

soon with a little help from our old pastors and friends who will understand. I thank the Lord that we can still come to the place where we can hear His voice and stand in the presence of Him who holds the whole world in His hand.

I thank God for His loving people.

—Mrs. Etta Lawson

Back to Work After a Touch From God

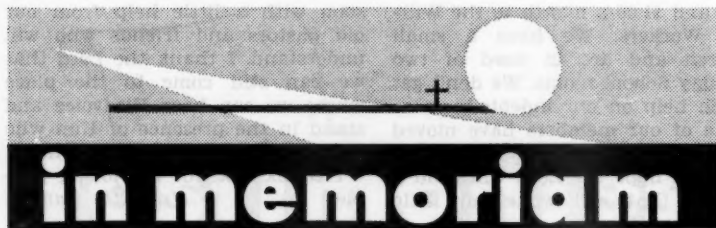
CAWOOD, Ky.—I want to send my praise for what the *Evangel* means to me and my home. I receive the *Evangel* every week and receive many good blessings from reading it.

Recently my husband became ill and the doctor wanted him to go to the hospital. Somehow we had lost our hospital card and the hospital wouldn't admit him without it. I knew in my heart that the God I was serving could heal. I put the *Evangel* under his pillow and by next morning he said that he believed he was going to be all right. He has been getting better ever since and has been able to go back to work. I give God all the praise and glory.

—Zelpha Fields

It is a terrific temptation to perform socially approved acts for the sake of group commendation; that is, to be guided by human and cultural norms as well as to seek satisfaction of selfish motives. This is the chief indictment against "How to Win Friends and Influence People." Part of the damnable feature of the business is that it actually *works* in a rather significant fashion. Men who seek to impress others are likely to succeed, though not always in a degree sufficient to satisfy their own wants. But the process of winning success in this fashion inhibits a course of action that can lead to winning the rewards of heaven.

So the warning of Jesus involves not so much the operation of justice as of cause and effect. It is a basic law of God, at once hidden and clear, that "you get what you pay for."—Webb B. Garrison in *Sermon Seeds from the Gospels* (Fleming H. Revell Company).



CLEMENTS

Rev. A. J. Clements of Atlanta, Georgia, passed away on July 10, 1958. Brother Clements was an ordained minister in the Church of God.—*Rev. W. E. Johnson, overseer*

HARRIS

Rev. J. T. Harris of Atlanta, Georgia, passed away on August 1, 1958. Brother Harris was a licensed minister in the Church of God.—*Rev. W. E. Johnson, overseer*

McGARITY

Mrs. Vivian Cox McGarity of Mt. Pleasant, Tenn., wife of the Rev. Hubert G. McGarity, and former Belton, South Carolina, resident, died September 1 at a Columbia, Tenn. hospital at 12:15 p.m. She had been in declining health for two years and ill for one week.

Mrs. McGarity was a daughter of Mrs. Anna King Cox, of Greenville, S. C. and the late W. L. Cox. She was a member of the Mt. Pleasant Church of God. Surviving, besides her husband and her mother, are 1 son, Hubert McGarity, Jr.; 2 brothers, Rev. W. Roy Cox of Brevard, N. C., and George R. Cox of Belton, S. C.; and 1 sister, Mrs. George Deanhart of Greenville, S. C.

Funeral service was conducted at Williams Funeral Home at Mt. Pleasant at 10 a.m., Tuesday. The body arrived Tuesday night at Cox Funeral Home in Belton, and graveside services were conducted Wednesday afternoon by the Rev. F. L. Miller at 5:30 p.m. in Garden of Memories Cemetery near Belton.

—*Reporter*

McKAY

Mrs. Ida Mae McGurie McKay departed this life in Jefferson Memorial Hospital, Roanoke, Virginia, on September 10, 1958. Sister McKay was an energetic minister in the Church of God and had been preaching for nearly 20 years. Her husband, Clyde W. McKay, was converted during her earlier min-

istry and they had been married for 15 years. Brother and Sister McKay had just moved to their new pastorate at Shorts Creek, Va.

When Sister McKay became ill, she was taken to the Pulaski Hospital where she was transferred to the Jefferson Memorial Hospital in Roanoke on September 8. On September 9, an operation was performed, and on September 10 when Brother McKay approached the room he could hear his wife preaching and singing in Spanish. In part her words said "Lord bless the good old Church of God." She never regained consciousness from her operation and slipped away to be with the Lord about 5:45 p.m. on September 10.

Her funeral was conducted by the state overseer, J. D. Bright; state youth director, Paul J. Eure; and H. A. Stone, pastor of the West Danville Church of God. Interment was in the Schoolfield Cemetery, Danville, Virginia.

Brother Bright used Sister McKay's parting words "Lord bless the good old Church of God" for his message to the bereaved. By his words and by proof in the Scripture we realize even more that Sister McKay had been a blessed saint, mother, and minister of the gospel. We will miss her ministry here in the State of Virginia—but we know our loss is heaven's gain.

Besides her husband, Sister McKay leaves to mourn her passing three sons—Clyde, Boyd, and Dar-rayl. —*Virginia F. Eure, reporter*

CARDEN

The Rev. E. F. Carden of Anniston, Alabama, passed away on July 3, 1958. Brother Carden was a licensed minister in the Church of God. —*Rev. John L. Byrd, overseer*

LEWIS

A sad time came to Pelham, Ga., July 12 when Brother Jeff Lewis, member of the Pelham Church of God passed away suddenly. He leaves his devoted wife, 1 son, and a number of other relatives and friends.

His funeral was conducted July 13 at the Pelham Church of God by the Rev. C. N. Boel, Rev. J. J. Grizzle and Rev. Leroy Johnson, his pastor. Interment was in the Pelham cemetery. We know that our loss is heaven's gain.

—*Mrs. Joe Sellers, reporter*

JONES

Rev. Lawrence Everett Jones was born January 7, 1897, and passed away August 26, 1958. He had been a member of the Church of God for 15 years and a minister for 10 years. At the time of his death, he was the teacher of the Men's Bible Class at East Ridge, Tennessee, Church of God.

Brother Jones is survived by his wife, Mrs. Sarah Jones; 5 sons; 4 daughters; 2 sisters; 1 brother; grandchildren and other relatives.

His funeral was conducted in Chattanooga, Tennessee, by Rev. John D. Smith and J. Newby Thompson.

He will be greatly missed by family, friends, church, and community.

—*J. Newby Thompson, pastor*

WILLIAMS

On June 20, 1958, Mrs. Mozelle Williams passed from our midst at the age of 43. She leaves her husband, Mr. George Williams; 2 sons and 1 daughter, Troy Townsend, Buddy Townsend, and Rebecca Williams.

Mrs. Williams moved to Ocala, Florida, from Gadsden, Alabama, and remained with us 3½ years before passing away. She has been a member of the Church of God for approximately 14 years. All funeral services were conducted in Gadsden, Alabama.

Our prayers and sympathy go out to those who mourn the departure of our friend and sister in the Lord.

—*Rev. George Harley, pastor*

BARRETT

Rev. T. P. Barrett, born December 12, 1871, died June 15, 1958, at Hugo, Oklahoma. He was a minister of the Church of God for several years. Funeral services were held at Ft. Towson, Oklahoma, by Rev. Dodge and Rev. Boykin. Burial was at the Ft. Towson cemetery. Brother Barrett leaves his wife, Annie Barrett; and two brothers, C. M. Barrett and George A. Barrett.

Brother Barrett lived an exemplary life and his example was as effective as his preached word. He

has been called home to his Father, where he will be reunited with a great many souls whose lives he touched on this earth.

—C. M. Barrett, brother

FISHER

On May 17th, 1958, Herbert (Sonny) Fisher, Jr., departed this life for glory. He would have been 18 years of age on May 29. Never has a young man left behind so many who will miss him through the years. In the short time that he served the Landis Church of God as pianist and choir director, he made for himself a place in the hearts of the young and the old. His all was dedicated to God and never did he reserve anything from the Lord.

The church and our lives are a little sadder for his going, but heaven is much dearer.

—Carnie E. Allred, Jr., pastor

BUKER

The death angel visited the Church of God at East Bank, West Virginia, and took our beloved pastor, Rev. William E. Buker, age 49. Brother Buker had been with us 4 years as a pastor and served the church well.

He received his promotion August 11, 1958, to that land where he will never suffer or grow old. He was loved by all who knew him and was a great blessing to our church. His membership was at the Oakwood Church of God, Knoxville, Tennessee.

The funeral service was conducted at the East Bank Church where he was pastor, by the Rev. Fred Jump of Bloomington, North Carolina. Assisting were Rev. Walter E. Albee, his district pastor, and Rev. Franklin H. Hall. His body was laid to rest in the Montgomery Memorial Park at London, West Virginia, to await the coming of our Lord.

—Rev. Walter E. Albee, district pastor

ROBERTS

Amanda Easter Roberts, born January 21, 1877, passed away at her home in Lenoir City, Tenn., June 16, 1958, after a long and eventful life, most of which was lived for the Lord.

Aunt Mandy, as she was known to all of her friends, united with the Church of God in the year 1919, very soon after it was organized, and served the Lord in a remarkable way. She was one who believed in long hours of agonizing prayer and days of fasting. Many testify to the deep consecration of

this dear old saint, and many were won to the Lord by her prayers. Though many were healed and blessed by her prayers, she herself spent the last 22 years of her life totally blind; she could not see the brightest light. She bore this affliction with patience, always expecting the Lord to heal her eyes. At last she is with Him Who has removed all sorrow, brushed away all the tears, and comforted her through all the hard trials.

She was a very faithful church member and deeply dedicated to God and her religion; her God was all she lived for. While she was blind, it was my privilege to take her to church for a period of 15 years. In that time she never missed an opportunity to go to church in any kind of weather. For the last 5 years, she was confined to her home. Being unable to go to church was one of her hardest trials.

God remarkably answered her prayers that she would never become a burden to the loved ones who cared for her. Her prayer that she would always be able to feed herself was granted. She prayed that the Lord would let her die in her sleep with no bother to anyone. This was granted. She passed with a smile, very peacefully in her sleep. Many other things, too numerous to mention, the Lord did for this faithful warrior.

She leaves 2 sons, James R. Roberts and W.D. Roberts; 6 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, but they all had that satisfaction that Aunt Mandy has gone to her real home above to be ever with her Lord.

—Leon Sheffield, reporter

ROOPS

Our beloved Brother in Christ, Perry Van Roops, age 71, departed this life to live with Jesus on the morning of July 23, 1958. He is survived by his wife, Mary B. Roops; one daughter, Mrs. Marion Wood; and one son, Robert Lee Roops. Brother Roops was a faithful member of the Church of God for about 30 years; he was faithful in attendance and in supporting the church. It was an inspiration to all just to know he loved his Lord. He will be missed by all who knew him, but we feel sure that our loss will be heaven's gain.

—Rev. J. C. Bower, pastor

REISNOR

On September 17, 1958, there passed from our midst Sister Lena Reinsnor, who was 76 years of age. She was a member of the Shelburn, Indiana, Church of God but

for the past few years had been confined to her home. She was always kind and cheerful with a good witness for her Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. We are sure that our loss is heaven's gain.

Sister Reinsnor's funeral was conducted by her pastor, Rev. William Simpson; he was assisted by Rev. C. H. Standifer and Rev. Gene Nash.

—Rev. William Simpson, pastor

MORRISON

Charlie A. Morrison, born July 28, 1905, passed away May 29, 1958, in Bay Pines, Florida. Brother Morrison was a faithful worker for the Frostproof Sunday School. He provided transportation for 20 to 30 children each Sunday at his expense. The church has missed Brother Morrison and we are trying to carry on the good work that he started.

The funeral service was held at the Frostproof, Florida, Church of God and conducted by Rev. Carl W. Bryan, Rev. T. J. Wells, and Rev. Leon Thomas. Interment was in the Silver Lake Cemetery, Frostproof, Florida.

—Rev. Carl W. Bryan, pastor

ELROD

Mrs. Amanda Elrod, of 15-b Pleasant Drive, Opelika, Alabama, went to her reward from a Dadeville nursing home on Sunday, August 31, 1958. She was 85 years old and had suffered a six week's illness. Funeral services were conducted in Opelika, Alabama, by Rev. S. B. War and Rev. W. H. Morrison with another graveside service in Rome, Georgia, with Rev. Paul T. Stover officiating.

Mrs. Elrod, a native of Jasper, Georgia, had made her home with her son, Rev. Sanford C. Elrod, a Church of God minister, in Opelika, Alabama, for the past nine years.

Survivors include a son, Rev. S. C. Elrod, one grandchild, two great-grandchildren, 7 great-great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

—Rev. Paul T. Stover, reporter

HAYES

Mrs. Sarah L. Towns Hayes of Eustis, Florida, was born July 14, 1870, and departed this life on October 11, 1957. She received the baptism of the Holy Ghost in 1929 and, for 28 years, was a devout member of the Church of God. At the time of her death she was a member of the Church of God at Zellwood, Florida.

—Lola Warren, daughter



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For Sunday School Teachers—Adults, Juniors

Evangelical Sunday School

Lesson Commentary For 1959

It has extensive teaching material on the fifty-two lessons for the whole year. What the Bible Commentary is to the preacher; this commentary is to the teacher. Excellent Christmas gift for teacher of adults and junior ages. Price, \$2.25.



For Teen-Agers—

Just For Girls

by Dorothy C. Haskin. Practical Christian counsel for the girl who seeks real popularity. Paper, \$1.00.

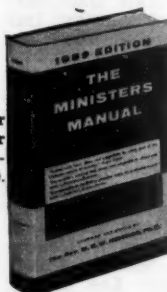
Just For Fellows

By Howard Clark. Here is practical Christian counsel for boys and young men dealing authoritatively with problems of Christian living including problems of the sex life, dating, driving habits, choosing a life's work, witnessing for Christ, finding the right girl, understanding yourself, getting along with your family, etc. Paper, square back, \$1.00.

For Preachers—

The Minister's Manual
for 1959

Study and pulpit guide for the calendar year packed with facts, ideas, and suggestions for every part of the Christian service. Appropriate Christmas gift for a pastor. Price, \$3.00.

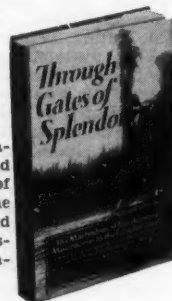


Missionary Book—

Through Gates of Splendor

by Elisabeth Elliot

Nothing in modern literature has dramatized so strikingly the collision of old and new, of darkness and light, as this saga of five missionary martyrs. These men were the first in centuries to penetrate the dread land of the Auca Indians in Ecuador with the message of Christ's redemption, only to be ambushed and slain. Price, \$3.75.



For Everyone—

Harper Clearblack Concordance Bible

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Famous self-pronouncing clearblack type printed on thin, opaque India paper. Contains a complete concordance, center-column references, 62 pages of helps and 12 maps plus index. Half-circuit, red under gold edges, size 4 11/16" x 7" and less than 1" thick. King James Version. Price, \$9.50.



Christian Fiction—

Small Giant

By Phyllis Woodruff Sapp.

Small Giant is the story of one man's courageous fight against the powers of evil in a crime-ridden city run by a power-mad gang leader. At the risk of life and love, Phil Sanders, man of courage and faith, threw himself into the battle and emerged triumphant over terrific odds and overpowering obstacles. Price, \$3.00.

The Wayward Heart

By Sallie Lee Bell

The moving romance of a lovely maiden torn between her love for her Israelite childhood friend and the unbidden attention of a Roman soldier. Once again the quiet Nazarene changes lives. Price, \$2.50.

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family devotions



By MRS. PAUL S. COOK, Memphis, Tennessee

LOOK UPWARD AND TRUST HIM

Memory Verse: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord JEHOVAH is everlasting strength" (Isaiah 26:3, 4).

Monday, December 1
Scripture, Psalm 63

Trust Him With Our Soul. "My son, give me thine heart." God desires us to commit unto Him the safe-guarding of our souls. He will never undertake to cleanse the heart that is not entrusted to Him for searching. However, if we will give our full and continued committance, He will lift our souls from darkness and despair unto light and hope.

Pray that each member of the family may commit his soul into God's hands, and thereby find that perfect peace which is in Christ.

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Tuesday, December 2
Scripture, 2 Timothy 1:5-12

Trust Him for Our Mind. "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but . . . of a sound mind." We will not be disappointed nor disillusioned if our trust is in God. We must first comprehend fully the trustworthiness of God, and then we can rise above all broken hopes and soar to a lofty plane of perfect peace. We can live unbounded by tension, fear or fret this day and every day. Fretting is a mark of servitude and will shackle our minds until we have lost that perfect peace with God.

Pray that God will give unto us the quiet confidence of a mind whose trust is in God.

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Wednesday, December 3
Scripture, Psalm 103:1-7

Trust Him for Our Bodies. Although man's greatest need is spiritual health, there is a desire within everyone of us for a healthy and sound body. Provision was made for this need at Calvary, and the Christian family can gratefully accept all the benefits of healing and health offered by the risen Lord. Regardless of the physical perils we may encounter throughout our daily life, we can trust God to deliver us from death, ac-

cidents or diseases. Searching the Scriptures, we find that in every age God has healed diseases and kept bodies safe from harm and danger when men have put their trust in Him.

Pray that the family may accept the finished work of Christ and trust Him for their spiritual and physical health.

— — —

Thursday, December 4
Scripture, Matthew 6:25-34

Trust Him for Our Daily Bread. Shall not He who feeds the sparrow supply daily provision for those created after His own image? The Psalmist expressed his trust and confidence in God for sustenance by saying that he had not "seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Elijah was fed by a raven, the widow of Zarephath had her meal multiplied, and Jesus fed the hunger of a multitude. So will He meet our daily needs.

Father, as we trust Thee for our daily bread, may we learn to find satisfaction in the simple nourishing fare which the Bread of Life supplies.

— — —

Friday, December 5
Scripture, Psalm 91

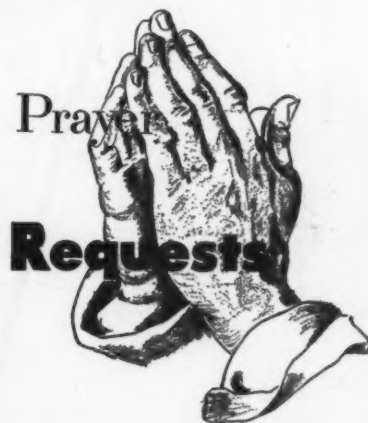
Trust Him for Protection. "In Him will I trust." We shall not be afraid under the overshadowing wings of the eternal Creator, for He will protect us from all sin and evil. We cannot dare trust our own strength for we would fail. But only as we use His truth to be our shield and buckler, can we escape from the terror and destruction of Satan. "But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely. . . ." Whenever danger threatens us, we can be assured that God will step in and rescue us from the snares of the evil one.

Pray that God will protect us from fears and doubts that terrify and gnaw at our souls.

Saturday, December 6
Scripture, Psalm 16

Trust Him for the Future. "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord. . . ." In the path we are traveling, only the few steps ahead are open to our view. If our trust is in God, we can be confident that He has charted our course and has prepared the way before us. We can be unafraid, marching boldly forward, trusting the heavenly Guide. He will preserve us and extend goodness unto us all the days of our life. If the journey becomes weary and our steps slip in the conflict, we ought to take time to wait upon the Lord, resting upon His promises.

Pray that each member of the family will follow the path that God has planned for his life.



Pray for the Lord to heal my daughter's eye so that she can see better.
—A Christian mother

Pray that the Lord will save my husband and children. Pray also for our church at Cawood.

—Zelpha Fields
Cawood, Ky.

Pray for the healing of my hands and the salvation of my lost children.
—Mrs. Arnice Brooks
Boaz, Ala.

Pray for the complete healing of my body.
—A sister in Christ

Pray that the Lord will heal me of a foot ailment which causes constant pain.
—Mrs. V. G. Hughes
Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Pray for me and the healing of my loved ones.
—Lula Bain
Mentone, Ala.

Pray that the Lord will heal my hurt ribs and my nervous condition; too, pray for me to get closer to the Lord. Also pray for my husband, who isn't saved, and for my children.
—A Christian

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